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Public Invited to the 2nd Annual Cooler Communities Fair on Saturday, May 13

FRAMINGHAM - The City of Framingham and Framingham Public Schools in collaboration with the <u>Cooler Communities Program</u> is inviting the public to attend Framingham's second annual Cooler Communities Fair on Saturday, May 13, 2023 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Harmony Grove Elementary School in Framingham.

The public event is free. Registration is not required, but allows event organizers to share updates regarding the event. Anyone looking to attend the Cooler Communities Fair can RSVP by visiting Eventbrite or on Facebook.

The Cooler Communities program is supported by the Framingham Public Schools Office of Equity, Diversity, and Community Engagement, the Framingham Public Schools Community Resource Development Department, students and faculty of various elementary and middle schools, the Framingham High School Environmental Awareness Club and the Sustainability Committee.

Framingham residents and families are encouraged to attend to learn about opportunities to help reduce the community's carbon footprint and their own utility costs.

"We are thrilled that Framingham is running its second Cooler Communities event! Even with schools still having to handle the fall-out from the pandemic, prioritizing education both for students and the public on climate solutions and ways to live healthier and more affordable lives will empower everyone and forge community around a topic that has a big impact on all of our lives."

Educators and students will be showcasing projects on climate change, energy efficiency, and other related subjects

"We are extremely excited to have our student projects from both our out of school time programs as well as our school day class teachers and students from all of our district schools. This year's Cooler Communities Fair is set to be the biggest one that we've held yet in Framingham. Framingham Public Schools takes pride in its efforts around matters of environmental sustainability and we look forward to sharing the various forms of education and internal actions being taken to support this cause," said Yemi Ajao, Framingham Public Schools Community Resource Development Director

In addition to viewing student projects, attendees will hear from the Framingham Sustainability Committee on various ways to save on energy bills and live in more climate-friendly ways.

"With our ongoing work in developing the City's first Climate Action Plan, this FPS event is an amazing opportunity for us to engage and learn from the creativity of our youth in thinking about solutions to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to our changing climate," said Shawn Luz, Sustainability Coordinator for the City.

"I am proud to support this effort and I applaud the work of FPS and our students. The students and their mentors are leading the way to engage their families and our community in conversations around climate action and sustainability, said Aimee Powelka, Vice Chair of the Framingham Sustainability Committee.

There will also be free food, ice cream, as well as fun games and activities for children, and an appearance by the Framingham Public Libraries' Bookmobile, if the weather allows.

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